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Date | September 27, 2005

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Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

Pfizer Inc.

Austin W. Zhang

SEP 2 7 2005

PC26832

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ЛАN-MIN FU

EXAMINER: GOLAM M. SHAMEEM

SERIAL NO.: 10/777,252

ART UNIT:

1626

FILED:

FEBRUARY 12, 2004

CONF. NO.:

5399

FOR:

ARYLSULPHONYL SUBSTITUTED-TETRAHYDRO- AND

HEXAHYDRO-CARBAZOLES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office action mailed 09/09/2005, which supersedes the previous Office action mailed on July 22, 2005. This Office action issues an Election/Restrictions requirement, which divides the claims in the application into six groups, which the Office action describes as follows:

- Claims 1-4, 10, and 6 drawn to compounds, composition classified in classes I. 548, 514 and numerous subclasses.
- Claims 11-15 drawn to a method of treating a disease classified in class 514. П.
- Claims 17 and 34 drawn to a method of performing emission tomography Ш. classified in class 374.
- IV. Claims 19-22, 27, and 33 drawn to compounds, compositions classified in classes 548, 514 and numerous subclasses.
- Claims 28-32 drawn to a method of treating a disease classified in class 514. V.
- VI. Claims 36-39 drawn to a method of performing emission tomography classified in class 374.

In response to the Elections/Restrictions requirement, Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Group VI and the single compound recited in claim 39, namely

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(3R)-9-Methyl-6-(phenylsulfonyl)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-carbazol-3-amine. Claims readable on (3R)-9-Methyl-6-(phenylsulfonyl)-2,3,4,4a,9,9a-hexahydro-1H-carbazol-3-amine are claims 38 and 39.

Applicant respectfully submits that the requirement is improper because Applicant believes the Examiner has not made a prima facie showing of a serious burden. (MPEP 803). According to the MPEP, a serious burden my be prima facie shown if the examiner shows by appropriate explanation of separate classification, or separate status in the art, or different field of search. Applicant believes the Examiner has failed to make such as a prima facie showing. For example, both Groups III and VI, which both recite a method of performing emission tomography, are classified, according to the Office action, in class 374. However, the Examiner has not provided explanation or showing that the two groups have separate status in the art or require a different field of search. Similarly, Groups I and IV are both classified in 548, 514, while Groups II and V also in class 514; however, the Examiner has provided no explanation or showing that the two groups in the same class have separate status in the art or require a different field of search. For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the Restrictions/Elections requirement. At minimum, Applicant requests a modification of the requirement such that Groups III and VI are examined together on merits, because Applicant believes that an examination on the two groups together can be made without a serious burden on the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 4-27-202

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